

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 16 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, amend Claims 1-15 and add Claims 17-23 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A developing cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, said ~~apparatus~~ cartridge comprising:

a cartridge frame;

a developing roller configured and positioned to develop ~~for developing~~ an electrostatic latent image formed on an electrophotographic photosensitive drum;

~~an~~ a one-end frame groove provided at one longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;

~~an one-end frame projection provided at said one longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;~~

a one-end bearing member configured and positioned to rotatably support a ~~for~~ ~~rotatably supporting~~ ~~one-end~~ shaft provided at one longitudinal end of said developing roller ~~extended~~ extending in a longitudinal direction of said cartridge frame;

~~an~~ a one-end bearing member cylinder, provided on said one-end bearing member, engaged with an inner surface of said one-end frame groove;

~~an elongated bearing member opening which is provided on said one-end bearing member and through which said frame one end projection is penetrated;~~

~~a first projection of metal provided on an outer surface of said one-end bearing member opposite from an inner side surface on which said one-end bearing member cylinder is provided;~~

~~a second projection of metal, which is provided on said one-end bearing member, and which supports a gear for receiving a driving force from a main assembly of the apparatus when said cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus;~~

~~a first screw for securing said one-end bearing member to one end of said cartridge frame;~~

~~an~~ a one-end side cover provided at one longitudinal end of said cartridge frame and configured and positioned to cover ~~covering~~ said one-end bearing member; and

~~a first opening provided in said one-end side cover and engageable with said first projection;~~

~~a second opening provided in said one-end side cover and engageable with said second projection;~~

~~an a one-end side cover projection provided inside said one-end side cover and engageable with an inner surface of a said one-end bearing member cylinder, which is engaged with said one-end frame groove;~~

~~a second screw for securing said one-end side cover to one end of said cartridge frame; and~~

~~a third screw for securing said one-end side cover to said first projection provided on said one-end bearing member.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising an application roller configured and positioned to apply for applying a developer on said developing roller, wherein said one-end bearing member is provided with a shaft projection opening for permitting projection of a shaft therethrough provided on one end of said application roller.

3. (Currently Amended) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1 or 2, further comprising a one-end guide, on an outer surface of said one-end side cover opposite from an inner surface of said one-end side cover on which said one-end side cover projection is provided, configured and positioned to guide for guiding said developing cartridge when said developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

4. (Currently Amended) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1 3, wherein said further comprising, on said one-end side cover, cover has a retainer opening through which one end of a retaining portion is retractably projected, the retaining portion being configured and positioned to prevent for preventing said developing cartridge from disengaging from the main assembly of the apparatus when said developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus ~~apparatus, is retractably projected.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further detachably mountable to a main assembly of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, said apparatus comprising:

- a cartridge frame;
- a developing roller for developing an electrostatic latent image formed on an electrophotographic photosensitive drum;
- a driving force receiving member, provided at one longitudinal end of said cartridge frame, for receiving a driving force from the main assembly of the apparatus when said developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus;
- an other-end frame groove provided at another longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;
- an other-end frame projection provided at said the other longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;
- an other-end bearing member configured and positioned to rotatably support ~~for rotatably supporting~~ an other-end shaft provided at the other longitudinal end of said developing roller ~~extended~~ extending in a the longitudinal direction of said cartridge frame;
- an other-end bearing member cylinder, provided on said other-end bearing member, engaged with an inner surface of said other-end frame groove;
- an elongated bearing member opening which is provided on said other-end bearing member and configured and positioned to receive ~~through which said frame other-end~~ other-end frame projection therethrough ~~is penetrated~~;
- a first screw for securing said other-end bearing member to another end of said cartridge frame;
- an other-end side cover provided at the other ~~another~~ longitudinal end of said cartridge frame and configured and positioned to cover ~~covering~~ said ~~one-end~~ other-end bearing member; and
- an other-end side cover projection provided inside said other-end side cover and engageable with an inner surface of an other-end bearing member cylinder engaged with said other-end frame groove;

an other-end side cover cylinder provided on said other-end side cover and having an inner surface which is engaged with an said other-end frame projection ~~penetrated~~ penetrating through said bearing member opening;

~~a second screw for securing said other-end side cover to the other end of said cartridge frame; and~~

~~a third screw for securing said other-end bearing member and said other-end side cover to the other end of said cartridge frame.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A developing cartridge according to Claim 5, further comprising:

an application roller configured and positioned to apply ~~for applying~~ a developer on said developing roller, wherein said other-end bearing member is provided with a shaft projection opening for permitting a shaft provided on ~~the other~~ an end of said application roller to penetrate therethrough;; and ~~further comprising~~

~~a toner seal~~ a developer accommodating portion configured to accommodate the developer and having a developer supply opening for permitting a toner seal for unsealably sealing a developer supply opening provided in a developer accommodating portion for accommodating the developer to be pulled.

7. (Currently Amended) A developing cartridge according to Claim 5 6, further comprising:

an other-end side cover projection provided inside said other-end side cover and engageable with an inner surface of an other-end bearing member cylinder engaged with an other-end frame groove provided at the other longitudinal end of said cartridge frame; and comprising,

an other-end guide, provided on an outer surface of said other-end side cover opposite from an inner surface of said other-end side cover on which said other-end side cover projection is provided, ~~other-end guide~~ configured and positioned to guide for guiding said developing cartridge when said developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the ~~apparatus; apparatus. and~~

~~a toner seal opening for permitting a toner seal for unsealably sealing a developer supply opening provided in a developer accommodating portion for accommodating the developer to be pulled.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A developing cartridge according to Claim 7, further comprising, comprising on said other-end side ~~cover~~, cover:

a retainer opening through which one end of a retaining portion configured and positioned to prevent ~~for preventing~~ said developing cartridge from disengaging from the main assembly of the apparatus when said developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus, is retractably projected.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for mounting a one-end side cover on a cartridge frame, comprising:

~~an a~~ one-end shaft supporting step of rotatably supporting, on a one-end bearing member, a one-end shaft provided at one longitudinal end of a developing roller;

~~an a~~ one-end bearing member cylinder engagement step of engaging a one-end bearing member cylinder provided on ~~a one-end~~ the one-end bearing member with a one-end frame groove provided at one longitudinal end of the cartridge frame to mount ~~a one-end~~ the one-end bearing member on the cartridge frame; and

~~a frame one-end projection penetration step of penetrating a one-end frame projection provided at the one longitudinal end of cartridge frame through a bearing member opening provided in the one-end bearing member to mount the one-end bearing member on the cartridge frame;~~

~~an one-end bearing member securing step of screwing a screw into a screw bore provided in the cartridge frame through the opening provided in the one-end bearing member to secure the one-end bearing member on the cartridge frame;~~

~~an one-end a one-end~~ side cover projection engaging step of engaging a one-end side cover projection provided on the one-end side cover with an inner surface of ~~an end~~ the one-end bearing member cylinder engaged with ~~a one-end~~ the one-end frame groove.  
groove;

~~a first projection engagement step of engaging a first projection of metal provided on one end bearing member with a first opening provided in one end side cover;~~

~~a second projection engagement step of engaging a second projection of metal provided on the one end bearing member with a second opening provided in one end bearing member;~~

~~a first one end side cover screwing step of screwing a screw into a screw bore provided in the cartridge frame through an opening provided in the one end side cover to screw the one end side cover to the cartridge frame; and~~

~~a second one end side cover screwing step of screwing a screw into a screw bore provided in the first projection provided in the one end bearing member through an opening provided in the one end side cover.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising a shaft projection step of projecting a shaft provided at one end of an application roller configured to apply for applying the developer on the developing roller through a shaft projection opening provided on the one end bearing member when the one end bearing member is mounted to the cartridge frame.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the cartridge frame is part of a developing cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said method further comprising:

a retainer member projecting step of projecting one end of a retaining member, configured and positioned to prevent for preventing the developing cartridge from disengaging from the apparatus, through a retaining member hole, when the one end side cover is mounted to the cartridge frame, and the developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the image forming apparatus.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 9, further for mounting a one end side cover on a cartridge frame; comprising:

an other-end shaft supporting step of rotatably supporting, on an other-end bearing member, an other-end shaft provided at another longitudinal end of a the developing roller;

~~an other-end bearing member cylinder engagement step of engaging an other-end bearing member cylinder other-end bearing member provided on an other-end bearing member with an other-end frame groove provided at another longitudinal end of cartridge frame to mount an other-end bearing member on the cartridge frame;~~

a frame an other-end frame projection penetration step of penetrating an other-end frame projection provided at the another longitudinal end of the cartridge frame through a bearing member opening provided in the an other-end bearing member to mount the other-end bearing member on the cartridge frame; and

~~an other-end bearing member securing step of screwing a screw into a screw bore provided in the cartridge frame through the opening provided in the other-end bearing member to secure the other-end bearing member on the cartridge frame;~~

~~an other-end side cover projection engagement step of engaging an other-end side cover projection provided on the other-end side cover on an inner surface of an other-end bearing member cylinder engaged with an other-end frame groove;~~

an other-end side cover cylinder engaging step of engaging an other-end side cover cylinder of an other-end side cover with an the other-end frame projection penetrating through the other-end bearing member opening. opening;

~~a first other-end side cover screwing step of screwing a screw into a screw bore provided in the cartridge frame through an opening provided in the other-end side cover to screw the other-end side cover to the cartridge frame; and~~

~~a second other-end side cover screwing step of screwing a screw into a screw bore provided in the first projection provided in the the-end bearing member through an opening provided in the other-end side cover.~~

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 12, further comprising:  
a shaft projection step of projecting a shaft provided on ~~another~~ an end of an application roller, configured and positioned to apply for applying the developer on the

developing roller, through a shaft projection opening provided on the other-end bearing member shaft projected in the provision.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 12 ~~or 13~~, wherein the cartridge frame is part of a developing cartridge that is detachably mountable to an image forming apparatus, said method further comprising:

a retainer member projecting step of projecting one end of a retaining member, configured and positioned to prevent ~~for preventing~~ the developing cartridge from disengaging from the apparatus, through a retaining member hole, when the one-end side cover is mounted to the cartridge frame, and the developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the ~~apparatus, and~~ apparatus.

~~a toner seal projection step of projecting a toner seal for unscalably sealing a developer supply opening provided in a developer accommodating portion for accommodating the developer through a toner seal opening.~~

15. (Currently Amended) An electrophotographic image forming apparatus for forming an image on a recording material, and to which ~~apparatus~~ a developing cartridge is detachably mountable, comprising:

(i) an electrophotographic photosensitive drum; and

(ii) a mounting portion configured and positioned to ~~for~~ detachably mount ~~mounting~~ a the developing cartridge, which includes a cartridge ~~frame; frame,~~ a developing roller configured and positioned to develop ~~for developing~~ an electrostatic latent image formed on said electrophotographic photosensitive ~~drum; drum,~~ an a one-end frame groove provided at one longitudinal end of ~~said the~~ cartridge ~~frame; frame,~~ an one-end-frame ~~projection provided at said one longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;~~ a one-end bearing member configured and positioned to ~~for~~ rotatably support ~~a supporting~~ one-end shaft provided at one longitudinal end of ~~said the~~ developing roller ~~extended~~ extending in a longitudinal direction of ~~said the~~ cartridge ~~frame; frame,~~ a ~~an~~ one-end bearing member cylinder, provided on ~~said one-end the one-end~~ bearing member, engaged with an inner surface of ~~said the~~ one-end frame ~~groove; groove,~~ an elongated bearing member opening



~~which is provided on said one-end bearing member and through which said frame one-end projection<sub>1</sub> is penetrated; a first projection of metal provided on an outer surface of said one-end bearing member opposite from an inner side surface on which said one-end bearing member cylinder is provided; a second projection of metal which is provided on said one-end bearing member and which supports a gear for receiving a driving force from a main assembly of the apparatus when said cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus; a first screw for securing said one-end bearing member to one end of said cartridge frame; an one-end a one-end side cover provided at one longitudinal end of said the cartridge frame and covering said the one-end bearing member, and member; a first opening provided in said one-end side cover and engageable with said first projection; a second opening provided in said one-end side cover and engageable with said second projection; an a one-end side cover projection provided on an inside of said the one-end side cover and engaged with an inner surface of a the one-end bearing member cylinder engaged with said the one-end frame groove. positioning hole; a second screw for securing said one-end side cover to one end of said cartridge frame; and a third screw for securing said one-end bearing member to said first projection provided on said one-end bearing member.~~

16. (Cancelled).

17. (New) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a one-end frame projection provided at said one longitudinal end of said cartridge frame; and

an elongated bearing member opening which is provided on said one-end bearing member through which said one-end frame projection penetrates.

18. (New) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a first metal projection provided on an outer surface of said one-end bearing member opposite from an inner side surface of said one-end bearing member on which said one-end bearing member cylinder is provided;

a first opening provided in said one-end side cover and engageable with said first projection; and

a first screw configured and positioned to secure said one-end side cover to said first projection provided on said one-end bearing member.

19. (New) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a second metal projection which is provided on said one-end bearing member and which supports a gear configured and positioned to receive a driving force from the main assembly of the apparatus when said cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus; and

a second opening provided in said one-end side cover and engageable with said second metal projection.

20. (New) A developing cartridge according to Claim 5, further comprising:

an other-end frame groove provided at the other longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;

an other-end bearing member cylinder, provided on said other-end bearing member, engaged with an inner surface of said other-end frame groove; and

an other-end side cover projection provided inside said other-end side cover and engageable with an inner surface of the other-end bearing member cylinder engaged with said other-end frame groove.

21. (New) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising:

a one-end frame projection penetration step of penetrating a one-end frame projection provided at the one longitudinal end of the cartridge frame through a bearing member opening provided in the one-end bearing member to mount the one-end bearing member on the cartridge frame.

22. (New) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising:

a first projection engagement step of engaging a first metal projection provided on the one-end bearing member with a first opening provided in the one-end side cover; and

a one-end side cover screwing step of screwing a screw into a screw bore provided on the first metal projection provided in the one-end bearing member through an opening provided in the one-end side cover.

23. (New) A method according to Claim 13, further comprising,

a second projection engagement step of engaging a second metal projection provided on the one-end bearing member with a second opening provided in the one-end bearing member.